

Non-Technical Summary

Stonegate Agriculture Ltd is a leading nationwide producer of eggs and egg products. This application is required due to the expansion of Bank Farm.

Bank Farm is situated in a rural area approximately 4km south west of the town of Boston in Lincolnshire. The installation is approximately centred on National Grid Reference 529499, 341566.

The existing site has two existing poultry houses for pullet rearing of which only one is operating (containing 32,000 birds). Bank Farm obtained planning consent in January 2014 was constructed in and due to low poultry numbers has never held an Environmental Permit. This application is to allow both existing houses to be stocked to a total of 64,000 pullets (2 x 32,000). Day-old chicks will be brought on to the farm and will remain until approximately 16 weeks old. The houses are vented via roof air inlets and the air removed using medium velocity fans within the long side walls. There are no gable end fans.

Roof water and run-off from the open hardstanding areas (excluding during periods of litter removal and washout) will be channelled into soakaway. The eastern and western site boundaries are formed by surface water drainage ditches, assumed to be connected to the Old Hammond Beck, the other side of Silvertoft Lane/Frampton Bank, approximately 15m north of the installation boundary.

Milled feed will be delivered to the site and stored in silos. There will be one stand-by generator with integrated diesel storage tank and storage tanks for liquid petroleum gas (LPG) for heating.

Mortalities are removed daily and stored in secure containers for removal under the Fallen Stock Scheme.

At the end of the growing period the houses are depopulated, the litter is removed, the houses and equipment washed and disinfected before being restocked. Litter is exported in covered trailers and wash water is conveyed to one above ground storage tank for temporary storage before being exported off-site. The existing purpose built storage tank was installed in 2014 and meets current legal and best practice requirements with a certified life of at least 20 years.

The existing poultry houses meet Best Available Techniques for housing design and management, and are approximately 6 years old.

The applicant has no known dust, odour or noise complaints from previous poultry operations at the site, but has in place noise and odour management plans.

The development was constructed under planning consent from Boston Borough Council (B/13/0384).